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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/697,298	10/31/2003	Thi Ngoc Phuong Nguyen	shih-pt041	9889

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EXAMINER	
NATNITHITHADHA, NAVIN	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
3736	

DATE MAILED: 03/08/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/697,298	NGUYEN, THI NGOC PHUONG	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Navin Natnithithadha	3736	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *14 December 2004*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-8* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-8* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *31 October 2003* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-8 are pending.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-8 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

3. Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Okada, US 6,152,880 A, in view of Chen et al, US 6,602,199 B2, and further in view of Ogura et al, US 5,649,536 A.

In regards to claim 1, Okada teaches a blood pressure measuring apparatus (electronic sphygmomanometer) (see fig. 2 and col. 1, lines 6-9), comprising: a housing (bulk body) 20; a switch (key module) 22; a LCD (display) 30; a diagnostic circuit (controller) 60; a blood pressure measuring circuit (electronic manometer) 50; and a cuff (gas filling ring) 10. Okada also teaches the diagnostic circuit 60 compares the measured diastolic pressures with threshold values (reference levels) S1, S2, S3, D2, D3 in order to judge which ranges the systolic and diastolic pressures belong to individually (see col. 4, lines 51-57). Okada teaches a LED display driving circuit 54 for

displaying these values (see col. 4, line 57), which would include a memory for storing values obtained from the diagnostic circuit 60. Data typically needs to be stored before it is displayed on a display device. Okada does not explicitly teach the key module 22 operative to input parameters including measuring times, measuring interval, abnormal blood pressure threshold values, and a memory connected to the controller operative to store the parameters input by the key module. However, Chen teaches blood pressure measurement apparatus 10 (see fig. 1) comprising: user interface (key module) 17 for setting (inputting) the number of measurements taken and measurement cycle time and a program memory 16 for storing these values (see col. 7, line 1-25). In addition, Ogura teaches a blood pressure measurement device comprising: input device 546 "manually operable to input or specify the reference values which are to be used by a control device 526 or CPU 528 in judging whether the subject is suffering from an abnormal blood pressure" (see col. 42, lines 24-35). It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Okada's apparatus to include the input functions of Chen and Ogura in order to warn the patient of abnormal blood pressure.

As to claim 2, Okada teaches the controller generating a control signal (LED display driving circuit 54) when the blood pressure value is higher than the threshold value (exceed reference levels) (see col. 4, lines 51-64).

As to claims 3-5, Okada teaches a LED lamp (warning device) 34.

As to claims 6 and 7, Okada teaches a warning device including generating audio signal (see col. 7, lines 21-26).

As to claim 8, Okada teaches a LCD 30.

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Navin Natnithithadha whose telephone number is (571) 272-4732. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8:00-4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Max Hindenburg can be reached on (571) 272-4726. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Navin Natnithithadha
Patent Examiner
GAU 3736
February 28, 2005